

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

. No.: 10/606,374 Confirmation No. 2800

Applicant: Junichi IGARASHI et al.

Filed : June 26, 2003

TC/A.U. : Unknown

Examiner : Unknown

Dkt. No. : NPR-123

Cust. No.: 20374

<u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)</u>

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 4, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each document is attached.

No fee or statement is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

Documents UA to UB and FC are in the English language.

Therefore, no concise explanation of the relevance of the documents is believed to be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

Documents FA and FB are not in the English language. However, the concise explanation of the relevance of the documents required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is believed to be satisfied by the submission of English language abstracts thereof.

Please note that Documents UA to UB and FA to FB were cited in a search report in a corresponding European patent application. A copy of the search report is attached hereto.

Please also note that Document FC corresponds to JP 9-253214 which is described in the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 1, of the specification of the present application. Document FA is described in the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 1, of the specification.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 111833 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK

Keiko Tanaka Kubovcik

Req. No. 40,428

U.S. Patent Appln. S.N. 10/606,374 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

PATENT

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KTK/jbf

Attachments: PTO-1449

Five Documents

European Search Report

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PTO-1449					Atty. Docket No. NPR-123			Serial No. 10/606,374
					Applicant: Junichi IGARASHI et al.			
U.S. PATENT DOC Examiner's Document No. Date N					Filing Date: June 26, 2003			Group: Unknown
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner's Initial		Document No.	Date	Name		Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If appropriate
	UA	4,180,068	12/25/79	Jacobsen e	Jacobsen et al.		214 R	
	UB	5,149,330 A	09/22/92	Brightbill		604	280	
	UC							
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner's Initial	r's Document No.		Date		Country	Country Translation Yes/No		
	FA	2001-137350 A	05/22/01 J		JP	Abstract		
	FB	09-253215 A	09/30/97	09/30/97 J		Abstract	Abstract	
	FC	97/35629		10/02/97		WO		
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OTHER DOCUMENTS								
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Examiner:

P/\12-03\npr-123-pto-1449.wpd Filed: December 4, 2003

Date Considered: